

750 BERING DRIVE HOUSTON, TX 77057-2198 PHONE 713.787.1400 Fax 713.787.1440 A LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: GROWCOCK, Frederick et

Serial No.: 10/075,747

Confirmation No.: 9474

Filed: February 14, 2002

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

For: OLEAGINOUS DRILLING FLUID THAT

PRODUCES A USEFUL SOIL AMENDMENT, METHODS OF USE AND BIO-REMEDIATION OF THE SAME AND RESULTING SOLIDS

Group Art Unit: 3673

Examiner: WALKER, Zakiya N.

Atty. Dkt. No.: 11836.0703.NPUS00

MIDR:703

First Preliminary Amendment

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22313-1450.

Before undertaking the examination of the above noted application, Applicant requests the following:

AMENDMENTS:

P.O. Box 1450

IN THE CLAIMS:

RECEIVED

JUL 2 3 2003

Please amend the claims in the following manner:

1. (Original) A biodegradable wellbore fluid comprising:

an oleaginous phase substantially composed of a linear paraffin having 11-18 carbon atoms,